

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE S. WEBBER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FIREARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 788,866, dated May 2, 1905.

Application filed October 19, 1903. Serial No. 177,850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE S. WEBBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Firearms, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates particularly to pocket-firearms; and my primary object is to provide a simple, inexpensive, safe, and convenient pocket-piece to be carried by the owner and employed at short range for self-protection.

The invention is illustrated in its preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the improved weapon; Fig. 2, a sectional view taken as indicated at line 2 of Fig. 1 and illustrating the piece in the normal position of its parts; Fig. 3, a similar view illustrating the piece at the instant of releasing the firing-pin in the firing operation, and Fig. 4 a section taken as indicated at line 4 of Fig. 2.

In the preferred construction the piece comprises a barrel A, having an open rear end of reduced cross-section, the barrel being externally threaded at the reduced portion; a cylindrical frame B, having an open internally-threaded front end screwed onto the reduced rear end of the barrel; a breech-piece E, screwed into the cylindrical member B and located near the front end thereof; a plunger G, provided at the center of its front face with a firing-pin *g*; a spring H, confined between the plunger and the rear end of the hollow frame B; a handle or knob D, preferably of yielding material, such as rubber, having a socket receiving the rear end of the member B, and a ring-shaped slide C, mounted on the barrel and provided with rearwardly-extending spring-arms *c*, having curved extremities *c'* and inwardly-extending catches or projections *c''* adjacent thereto and working in slots *b* in the walls of the member B, the spring-arms *c* being connected with the ring which carries them by rivets *c''*. The breech-piece E is separated from the rear end of the barrel by a short space, which receives the flange of the cartridge F, and said breech-piece is provided centrally with a perforation for the firing-pin

and on its front surface with depressions *d* for receiving the prongs of a wrench.

From the foregoing description the manner of use will be readily understood. The barrel may be readily unscrewed from the frame to permit the insertion of a cartridge, and when the parts are again joined together the flange of the cartridge is clamped firmly between the breech-piece and the rear end of the barrel. In the firing operation the piece is held in the hand with the handle D resting upon the palm of the hand and the barrel lying between the index and middle fingers, by means of which the slide may be retracted, forcing the plunger G rearwardly against its spring. When the curved extremities of the spring-arms *c* strike against the frame at the rear ends of the slots *b*, the spring-arms are spread apart, thereby releasing the plunger, which then flies forward under the force of its spring and produces the explosion. The piece (exaggeratedly illustrated) is of small enough size to permit it to be handled readily in the manner described. Moreover, the form and small size of the piece permit it to be carried readily about the person and to be carried or drawn unnoticed in case of emergency. The piece is of course intended for use at short range where it is unnecessary to take aim.

Changes in the form of certain of the parts and in certain details of construction are contemplated. Hence no undue limitation should be understood from the foregoing detailed description.

What I regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A firearm comprising a tubular frame, a barrel supported thereby, a spring-held plunger in said frame, a slide-ring encircling said barrel provided with rearwardly-extending arms equipped with projections extending through slots in the walls of said frame and releasably engaging said plunger, and means for moving said arms to release the plunger, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a firearm, the combination of a barrel, a tubular frame having screw connection therewith, a breech-piece having screw connection with the interior of the front portion of said

frame and separated from the rear end of the barrel by a short space, said frame having slotted side walls, a spring-held plunger within said frame, a slide equipped with spring-held catches detachably engaging said plunger, and means for releasing the catches from the plunger.

3. In a firearm, the combination of a barrel, a tubular frame connected with said barrel and provided in its side walls with slots, a spring-held plunger within said frame, and a

slide provided with rearwardly-extending spring-arms provided near their rear extremities with catches engaging said plunger and at said extremities with cams serving to spread the arms when said slide nears the rear end of its traverse, for the purpose set forth. 15

GEORGE S. WEBBER.

In presence of—

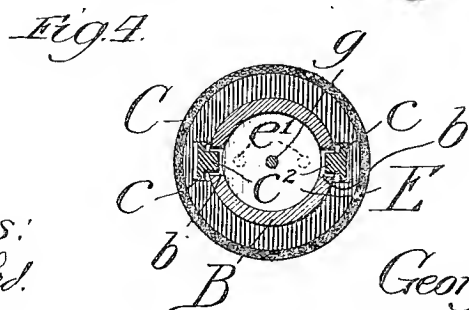
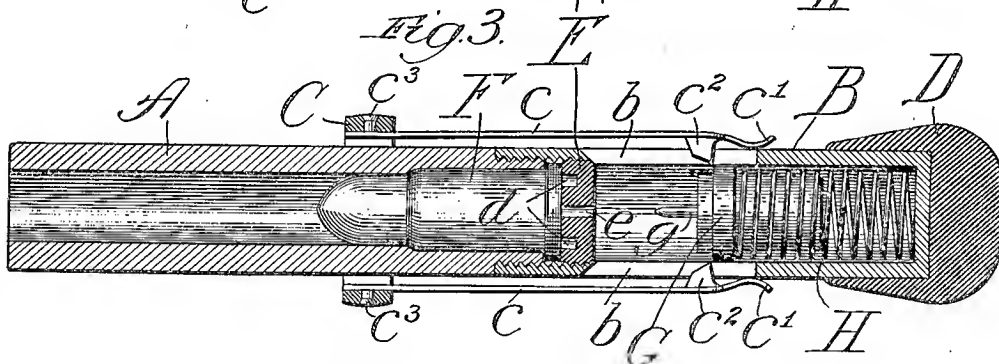
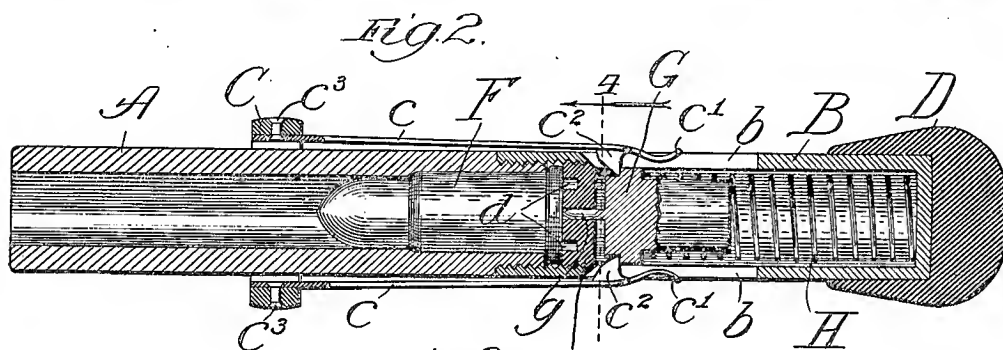
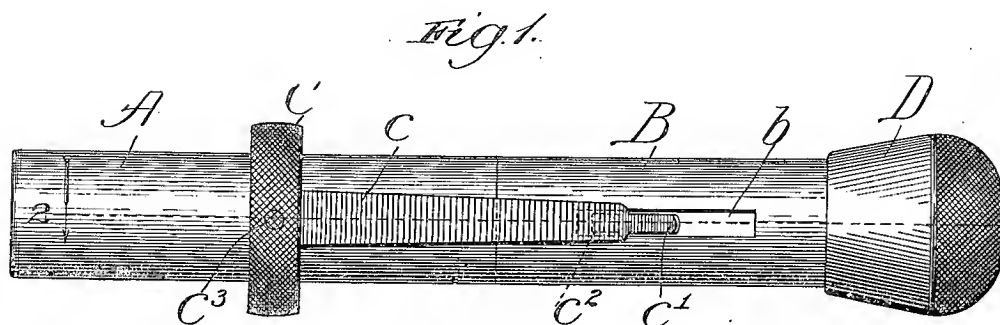
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FIREARM.

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